walled city areas where premises for running Fair Price Shops are not easily available.

[*English*]

Space Application Technology for Rural Development Programme

3552. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to utilise Space application technology for rural development programme; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Space Technology has been utilised for various rural development programmes using space remote sensing and communication capabilities. The specific projects carried out at National level are:

- Ground water potential zone mapping under the National Drinking Water Technology Mission to provide water source in problem villages. These maps have helped in drilling wells with success rates of 85-92%.

- Wasteland mapping to assist the reclamation of such land for productive use through afforestation, horticulture, fodder development, etc.

- Mini and micro watershed prioritisation for enhanced command area irrigation through appropriate soil conservation measures.

- Using satellite data, weekly marine fisheries charts indicating potential areas for fishing are being disseminated to fisheries departments/associations.

- As part of the satellite based communication programme, disaster warning system for advance warning of cyclones. rural telegraphy to enable communication with remote areas and mass educational programmes for rural population are being provided.

Demand for Cars

3553. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great fall in the demand of cars in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of vehicles manufactured by each of the main car manufacturers and their licensed capacity during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the demand of cars in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). The sale of passenger cars has registered a negative growth rate of 7% during the period April-January 1991-92 over the corresponding period of 1990-91. This could be attributed to decline in demand resulting from tightening of monetary policy of Government in order to control fiscal deficit and increase in prices.

(c) The production of passenger cars manufactured by the major car manufacturers during the last three years has been as under: